

*BONAPARTE'S ADDRESS TO GENERAL
KÖHLER. 21*

for me to increase their numbers to 1,000,000. Know, then, that I can also, without injuring my honor, say to my Guard, that having nothing but the repose and happiness of the country at heart, I renounce all my rights, and exhort my troops to follow my example, and yield to the wish of the nation."

I heard these words reported by General Köhler himself, after his return from his mission, he did not disguise the embarrassment which this unexpected address had occasioned; and I recollect having remarked at that time that had Bonaparte, at the commencement of the campaign of Paris, renounced his rights, and returned to the rank of citizen, the immense masses of the Allies must have yielded to the efforts of France. General Köhler also stated that Napoleon complained of Maria, Louisa not being allowed to accompany him but at length, yielding to the reasons urged by those about him, he added, "Well, I prefer remaining faithful to my promise; but, if I have any new ground of complaint, I will free myself from all my engagements."

At eleven o'clock (l'heure de Bussy, one of the Emperor's aides-de-camp, was sent by the Grand Marshal (General Bertrand) to announce that all was ready for departure. "Am I," said Napoleon, "to regulate my actions by the Grand Marshal's watch? I will go when I please. Perhaps I may not go at all. Leave me!"

All the forms of courtly etiquette which Napoleon loved so much were observed; and when at length he was pleased to leave his cabinet to enter the Chamber, where the Commissioners were waiting, the doors were thrown open as usual, and "The Emperor" was announced; but no sooner was the word uttered than he turned back again. However, he soon re-appeared, rapidly crossed the gallery, and demanded the staircase, and at twelve o'clock precisely he stood at the head of his Guard, as if at a review in the court of the Tuileries in the brilliant days of the Consulate and the Empire.

Then took place a really moving scene — Napoleon's farewell to his Household. Of this I may abstain from entering